

January 28, 2002

Renata Hesse
Antitrust Division
Trial Attorney
U.S. Department of Justice
601 D St NW, Ste 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Attorney Hesse:

In my eyes, the government's treatment of Microsoft has not been unlike the actions of Medieval European Lord's who would cut off the head of a nemesis and display it on a stake in the village square for all to heed the warning. Unfortunately, the real harm goes to taxpayers, consumers, and tech investors in this case.

The government and Microsoft finally came to a settlement after going in and out of courtrooms as fast as they would enter and cease mediation talks since this case began a few years ago. Although this settlement is fair, we are beyond even that factor in this proceeding. Whether or not the agreement serves one side more than the other - which from the looks of it serves the government over the corporation - what is important is that a settlement has been reached with most of the contributors to the case have signed off on.

Please end this portion of the case with your approval of the settlement so that all of us - Microsoft, consumers, taxpayers, government court officials, and investors - can get back to business as usual.

Many Thanks,



Richard J. McLaren
President, McLaren Ins. & Associates